GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2501
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2016
Encouragement of Alha Singers
Mishra Shri Bhairon Prasad

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the scheme formulated by the Government so far to encourage Alha Singers from Bundelkhand;

(b) the number along with the names of people who have been awarded by the Government so far for Alha Singing and the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to organize any special Alha Singing festival; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR CULTURE & TOURISM AND
MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

ANSWER

(a)&(b) There is no specific scheme to encourage Alha singers from Bundelkhand. However, Sangeet Natak Akademi (SNA), an autonomous organization of Ministry of Culture through its various programmes/activities encourages Folk & Tribal arts including Alha Gayan.
Every year SNA organizes Desaj- a festival of folk art tribal performing art forms of Bharat and presented Alha several times during the events.

SNA conducted a documentation of Alha Gayan Mahotsav held from 31 August to 2 September, 2014 at Mahoba, UP. Akademi documented 30 Alha singers of the region during the festival who presented the story of Kajli Sangram (Keerat Sagar ki Ladai).

(c)&(d) At present there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.